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AND HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 14 February 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the European Union, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a declaration of the Presidency of the European Union on Mostar, issued today.

I would be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 28, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) F. Paolo FULCI
Permanent Representative

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Declaration of the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on Mostar, dated 14 February 1996

The European Union is firmly committed to achieving the objectives of the European Union Administration in Mostar, as stated in the memorandum of understanding of 5 July 1994. The Union reaffirms its confidence in the European Union Administrator, Hans Koschnick, and fully supports his efforts to overcome present obstacles. The Union strongly condemns the recent inadmissible attacks against the Administrator and his staff, whose safety and role must be fully guaranteed by all parties concerned.

The Union recalls that, on 14 January 1996, the parties asked for the arbitration of Mr. Koschnick on the implementation of the agreement of 10 November 1995 concerning Mostar and that they committed themselves to accept his decision.

The European Union therefore deems that the decision on the delimitation of the municipal boundaries taken by the European Union Administrator must be respected. Actions by the European Union will be in support of that decision and will be taken with the agreement of the European Union Administrator. To this end the Presidency presented ideas to the parties on 11 February, previously agreed with the Administrator. As far as the provisions on the central zone of the city are concerned, the Administrator will envisage a gradual implementation of the return of refugees. This will however not affect the timetable planned for the implementation of the memorandum of understanding, namely as regards the holding of elections.

The European Union recalls the obligations for the parties arising from the memorandum of understanding on Mostar of July 1994 and the agreement of 10 November 1995. Such obligations bind not only the local parties, but also the Governments of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, which have subscribed as witnesses to the agreement of 10 November 1995. The Union considers all the parties responsible for the evolution of the situation in Mostar.

The Union trusts that the authorities of the Republic of Croatia in particular will give full and concrete follow-up to their assurances that they are supporting the functioning of the European Administration.